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 8300 block of N. Bliss Street
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POLICE

CRIMESTOPPERS

Witness Uses Camera to Capture Vandal Suspect



A witness photographs a man in connection with the vandalism of a bus shelter.

Tri-Met Transit Police, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in identifying and apprehending an individual who was observed vandalizing a bus shelter and then assaulted the citizen who witnessed the crime and confronted him.

On Wednesday, July 10, at about 11:20 p.m., a local resident observed someone using a felt marker to vandalize a bus shelter at Northeast 15th and Going Street.

Police said when the man confronted the subject, a scuffle ensued; during which time the subject bit the man on the hand. The man, who had a digital camera, was able to get a picture of the suspect.

He is described as a male white, 20 to 25-years of age, 5 feet, 10 inches tall and weighing approximately 150 pounds with brown hair.

Armed Serial Robber Eludes Arrest

Portland Police Bureau Robbery Detectives, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in identifying and apprehending a man who appears to be responsible for at least 17 armed robberies in the Portland area.

As early as the first of this year, a mix of small businesses, where female employees have been working alone, have been robbed by a subject who entered the business either shortly after it opened or just before it



A police sketch shows an armed robbery suspect.

displayed or simulated a handgun.

The suspect has been described as a Hispanic or perhaps mixed race male in his late 20s to mid-30s, with no distinguishable speech. The suspect is approximately 5'10" tall and weighs between 200 and 250 pounds, with a "stocky" build and black or brown hair and brown eyes. The suspect possibly has, or had, some type of injury to his upper left cheek that is, or was, a patchy scab.

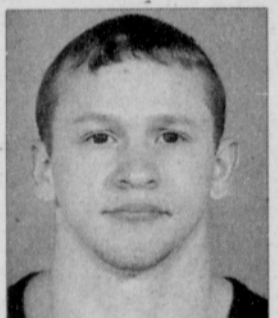
Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in these cases or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-HELP (4357).

Man Charged in Bus Assault

Police have charged a man with assault and intimidation in the beating of an African-American man who suffers from a mental illness.

Neil Michael Jefferson, 23, was arrested in connection with the Aug. 16 assault.

Police said he had a conversation with the victim while riding on a Tri-Met bus en route to the Milwaukie area, then took offense to some hand ges-

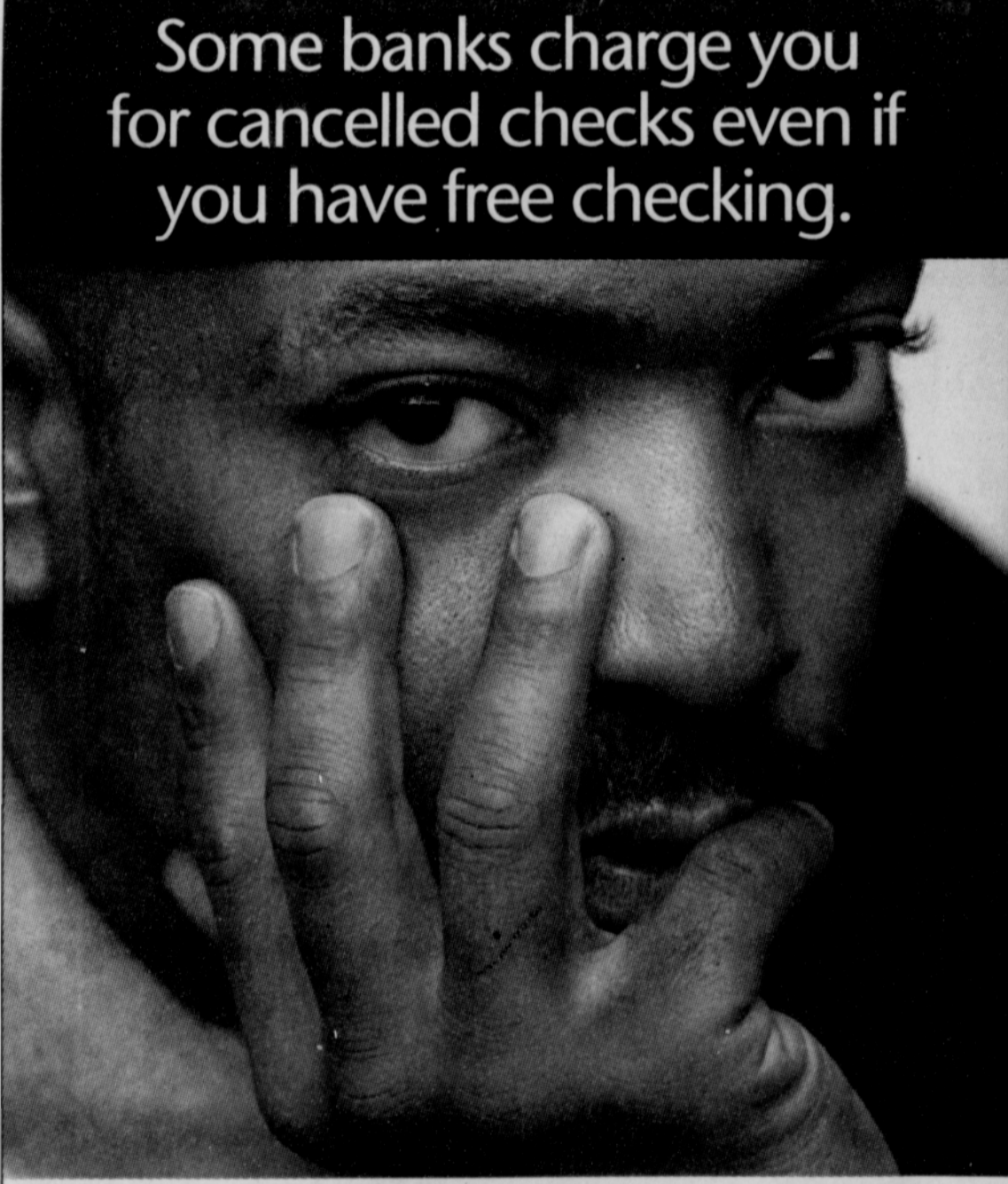


Neil Michael Jefferson

tures the victim was making and struck him approximately 10 times with a closed fist.

The victim was unconscious after the first few blows and suffered a broken jaw and other head injuries, police said. A witness told authorities he overheard Jefferson use a racial epithet during the course of the assault.

Anyone with information regarding this assault is encouraged to call detective Brian Grose at 503-823-0897.



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Nevada to Vote on Making Marijuana Legal

Smoking pot would be allowed in homes, but not in public

(AP) — In Nevada, they love gambling and tolerate prostitution. Now they are talking about legalizing pot.

A measure on the ballot Nov. 5 would make Nevada the first state to allow adults to possess marijuana — up to 3 ounces, enough for maybe 100 joints.

People over 21 would be allowed to smoke it in their homes, but not in cars or public places. Pot would be sold in state-licensed smoke shops and taxed like cigarettes.

"This initiative will allow the police to spend more time going after murderers, rapists and other violent criminals," said Billy Rogers, leader of the group that is pushing the measure.

Whether it could actually take effect is unclear. Federal law bans marijuana possession, and the White House has come out strongly against the idea. Also, Nevada voters would have to approve the proposal again in 2004 before it became law.

A year ago, Nevada had one of the nation's strictest marijuana laws. Possession of a single joint was a felony punishable by a year or more in prison.

In 2000, Nevada voters approved the use of medical marijuana, and the Legislature voted in 2001 to make possession of less than an ounce of pot a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Opinion polls on the marijuana measure show Nevadans almost evenly split, with opponents gaining ground.

"What message are we sending our youth if this initiative passes? That it's OK to take drugs?" said school counselor Teresa Jemspa. "If marijuana becomes legal, then what drug is next?"

"I don't think Las Vegas and Nevada want to become the center for drug tourism," Walters said.

Jeff Oakes, a North Las Vegas resident, said he supports legalization.

"As of right now," he said, "the most dangerous effect of marijuana possession and use is jail."

Two Drivers Jailed for Road Rage

(AP) — A 38-year-old man and a teen-ager were arrested Saturday in a case of road rage.

Police say the incident took place on the Interstate-205 southbound ramp from Powell Boulevard.

Richard Lyle Proffitt was jailed on charges of reckless driving, criminal mischief and menacing. He allegedly used a metal bar to smash a windshield and canopy window of the vehicle the teen-ager was driving.

The teen - who was not identified because he is 17 - was cited with the same offenses, and lodged at the Donald D. Long Juvenile Detention Center.

Two other Portland teens were also cited with reckless driving and released.

Reward Offered in Child Attacks

(AP) — Police in Gresham are offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the arrest of one or more suspects who attacked two young girls in their bedrooms in recent weeks.

An eight-year-old girl was sexually assaulted in August. A seven-year-old was attacked last week.

The suspect in the August attack is described as six feet tall, thin build, dark, shoulder-length hair with a moustache and chin hair. Police have not been able to obtain a description of the second attacker, but they say there are similarities in the two cases.